From:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Monday, April 18, 2011 4:50 PM

Sent:

To:

HAWtestimony

Cc: Subject: Ken Conklin@yahoo.com Testimony for SCR55 on 4/21/2011 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW/CUA 4/21/2011 9:30:00 AM SCR55

Conference room: 312

Testifier position: oppose Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Kenneth R. Conklin, Ph.D.

Organization: Individual

Address: Phone:

E-mail: Ken Conklin@yahoo.com

Submitted on: 4/18/2011

Comments:

Whereas for many millions of years there was no human habitation in these islands now known as the State of Hawaii; and

Whereas at some time perhaps two thousand years ago these islands were in fact discovered by the first humans ever to step foot here; and

Whereas today's ethnic Hawaiians have proudly revived the ancient tradition of voyaging canoes whereby the original discoverers arrived here; and

Whereas today's ethnic Hawaiians like to believe that they are the descendants of those first discoverers; and

Whereas all humans are indigenous people of this Earth;

Now therefore

Let us defeat this resolution because of the disrespect it places on the achievements of all explorers and discoverers, including the original discoverers of these islands, and because the proposal to name the holiday in honor of " indigenous people" in fact is nothing more nor less that a proposal to honor all the people of this Earth.

From: Sent: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Tuesday, April 19, 2011 5:30 PM

To:

HAWtestimony

Cc:

niga80@hotmail.com

Subject:

Testimony for SCR55 on 4/21/2011 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW/CUA 4/21/2011 9:30:00 AM SCR55

Conference room: 312

Testifier position: support Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Nidia Garcia Alejandro

Organization: Individual

Address: Phone:

E-mail: niga80@hotmail.com Submitted on: 4/19/2011

Comments:

Testimony - Nidia

Aloha. I support the initiative to change the name of "DISCOVERERS' DAY" in Hawaii to INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY, since until the day of the encounter our peoples lived with their rules, customs and proper traditions, with their roots grounded in these traditions and of different ways of appreciating life. Until this day the purest knowledge that comes from the coexistence with nature and its contemplation were free to be inherited from generation to generation. After this day, all this began to be erased by the knife-edge of the sword and in the name of God, a God who according to the colonizers gave them permission to massacre our peoples and take our lands. This gesture will be a small step in bringing peace to our world. Muchas gracias.

From:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Wednesday, April 20, 2011 2:20 AM

To:

HAWtestimony

Cc: Subject: kauahi@hawaii.rr.com Testimony for SCR55 on 4/21/2011 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW/CUA 4/21/2011 9:30:00 AM SCR55

Conference room: 312

Testifier position: support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Dr. Kekuni Blaisdell

Organization: Ka Pakaukau

Address: Phone:

E-mail: <u>kauahi@hawaii.rr.com</u> Submitted on: 4/20/2011

Comments:

Aloha mai kakou. The use of names carries important meaning and symbolizes the values we place on our society. The name "Discoverers' Day" in Hawaii reflects and condones a history based on subjugation. The fifteenth century Western concept of discovery established Christian dominion over non-Christians that allowed for their enslavement and the taking of their lands. Countless numbers of indigenous peoples subsequently perished worldwide as a result of the European imperial and colonization process. Today, an increasing number of American states, cities, local governments, and institutions have renamed or abolished "Columbus Day," which is synonymous with the concept of discovery and recognizing a "Discoverers' Day." Therefore, it is requested that the name of this day in Hawaii be changed to Indigenous Peoples Day to support and stand in solidarity with indigenous peoples around the world. Me ke aloha.

Dr. Anthony Castanha, Lecturer Department of Ethnic Studies University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Re: SCR 55 - Testimony to Support Legislation That Redesignates Discoverers' Day in Hawai'i to Indigenous Peoples Day

Aloha kakou and guatiao,

Thank you very much for allowing me to speak on behalf of this issue. My name is Tony Castanha. I am a lecturer in the Department of Ethnic Studies at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. I have been the coordinator of the annual Indigenous Peoples Day gathering that began here in Hawai'i in 1997. The name of our organization is called Kosmos Indigena. We normally meet on or around October 12 at Fort Street Mall, a response to when "Columbus Day" is recognized in the United States and "Discoverers' Day" in Hawai'i. This educational event builds awareness of indigenous human rights issues taking place internationally and in Hawai'i, and how the fifteenth century concept of discovery still influences society today.

While some may see the changing of the name of a day, like the changing of a street name or building, somewhat frivolous, the process of naming is substantive and the names we assign in the public sphere are important because they carry meaning and symbolize the values we place on our society. I'm sure that when the name Discoverers' Day was first used in Hawai'i to represent this day in 1988, it was well intentionally brought about. We all grow up learning of incredible journeys of exploration that Europeans and Polynesians undertook in search of new and familiar places. What we are not taught in the schools, however, is the darker side of history, or particularly of the European finding and colonization of lands.

The Western concept of discovery and the body of laws that have become known as the "doctrine of discovery" were based on papal decrees issued by the Roman Catholic Church beginning in the mid-fifteenth century. These decrees sanctioned Christian dominion over non-Christian peoples and called for their subjugation and the taking of their lands. For example, in the May 4, 1493 papal bull *Inter Caetera* issued to Christopher Columbus, territories that were not in the possession of Christian rulers were claimed by the Spanish Crown, referring to "all their dominions, cities, camps, places, and villages, and all rights, jurisdictions, and appurtenances, all islands and mainlands found and to be found, discovered and to be discovered towards the west and south."

¹The Bull Inter Caetera (Alexander VI), May 4, 1493, in Frances Gardiner Davenport, ed., European Treaties bearing on the History of the United States and its Dependencies to 1648, Washington, D.C.: Carnegie Institution of Washington, 1917, p. 77.

Columbus seized on the opportunity to claim all lands possible and implemented the *encomienda* forced labor slavery system in the Caribbean, where he worked as governor. As a result of the legacy of discovery, which was inherited by other European powers, tens of millions of indigenous peoples were killed off worldwide from the policies that were enacted. These population figures have been documented through recent research and scholarship.

Over the past twenty years or so this history has been increasingly exposed. In 1992, many indigenous peoples resisted and opposed the quincentennial celebration of the European arrival in the Americas. In that same year the city of Berkeley, California abolished Columbus Day and renamed it "Indigenous Peoples' Day," in part, to call attention to the plight of Native Americans. Since then, an increasing number of American states, cities, local governments, and institutions have renamed or abolished Columbus Day.

To recognize the name "Discoverers' Day" in Hawai'i is synonymous with Columbus Day because it acknowledges the inhumane nature of the concept of discovery and unwittingly upholds the many crimes that were committed. The concept applies to Hawai'i too because Captain James Cook's journeys were ones of "scientific discovery" in the European imagination, in his naming, mapping and charting of the region. Captain Cook is still thought of by many as the "Discoverer" of Hawai'i. For many others, particularly the Kānaka Maoli, Cook's legacy is one of death and destruction from the scourge of diseases he left behind.

Since October 2002, indigenous peoples and supporters, along with many students, have been informally calling this day in Hawai'i "Indigenous Peoples Day." We have already taken back the day to celebrate indigenous survival, pride, cultural continuity, and to build public awareness around this important issue. Thus, and in important recognition of the countless numbers of indigenous peoples who perished as a result of this history, we believe the name Discoverers' Day should be changed to Indigenous Peoples Day to support and stand in solidarity with indigenous peoples around the world. Mahalo nui loa.

Sincerely,

Anthony Castanha

To:

From:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2011 2:57 AM

HAWtestimony

Cc:

evelyn.dyegarcia@gmail.com

Subject: Testimony for SCR55 on 4/21/2011 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW/CUA 4/21/2011 9:30:00 AM SCR55

Conference room: 312

Testifier position: support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Evelyn Dye-Garcia

Organization: Individual

Address: Phone:

E-mail: evelyn.dyegarcia@gmail.com

Submitted on: 4/20/2011

Comments:

In this country, we ask our school children to recite the Pledge of Allegiance each morning as school begins. There is a phrase in the Pledge that says " with liberty and justice for all"... but where is the liberty and justice for the indigenous peoples who were already here when the 'discoverers' arrived? In my opinion the policies that allowed these foreign invaders to 'claim' lands were grossly unfair. The process of claiming the land resulted in the rape, mutilation, death and enslavement of millions of indigenous peoples in what is now known as 'the Americas', but was previously referred to as 'The New World'. EVERYONE KNOWS this New World was heavily populated with indigenous peoples from top (Canada) to bottom (South America) and in between (Central America and the Caribbean). These valiant people put up a fight to retain their homelands, but they were outmatched by superior weapons and a disregard for human life fueled by greed. It paid off for the 'discoverers' and the land was stolen. To this day, indigenous peoples have suffered to survive and to retain their cultures. I think the great shame of this country is how it was won, and how we claim to have " liberty and justice for all" yet we have had policies that allowed the murder of those who lived here first and their forced relocation to reservations, how Africans were stolen from their homeland, bought and sold in slave markets and forced to work the stolen land, how every immigrant group since has been poorly treated, how even our women were not allowed to vote. I personally cannot say the Pledge of Allegiance because I choke on the lie that says we have liberty and justice in this country. I think that it is time we apologize to those who have suffered so much so that this country of ours could exist, not those who shed their blood. PLEASE do what is right and make this change from Discoverer's Day to Indigenous Peoples Day. You must know in your hearts that it is the right thing to do Sincerely, Evelyn Dye-Garcia

ASSOCIATION OF HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUBS TESTIMONY OF PRESIDENT SOULEE STROUD

SCR55, SD1 REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO SUPPORT LEGISLATION THAT REDESIGNATES DISCOVERERS' DAY IN HAWAII AS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY

JOINT COMMITTEES ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
And
COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Thursday; April 21, 2011; 9:30 am; Rm.312

Aloha Madam Chair Hanohano of the Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, and Madam Chair Wooley of the Committee on Culture and the Arts and members of the Joint Committees. I am Soulee Stroud, President of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs here to support SCR55SD1.

Recognition of Indigenous Peoples has been taking place throughout the world over the past couple of decades and the time to recognize that Hawaii too has a community of indigenous people is overdue. Hawaii's indigenous people, of course, are Native Hawaiians, who can also be characterized as Native Americans.

While nations of the world are finally giving recognition to their indigenous populations, many American cities and states, to their credit, are beginning to do the same. Mahalo nui to those enlightened citizens who have gathered annually since 1997 to remind Hawaii that the indigenous people of the world include Native Hawaiians, and that all indigenous cultures should be celebrated, protected and preserved.

We urge the passage of this legislation and urge Governor Abercrombie to support it with the authority of his office.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Contact: Jalna Keala; jalna.keala2@hawaiiantel.net

From:

Sent:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Wednesday, April 20, 2011 10:08 AM

To:

HAWtestimony amyj@hawaii.edu

Cc: Subject:

Testimony for SCR55 on 4/21/2011 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW/CUA 4/21/2011 9:30:00 AM SCR55

Conference room: 312

Testifier position: support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Amy Mahealani Jones

Organization: Individual

Address: Phone:

E-mail: <u>amyj@hawaii.edu</u> Submitted on: 4/20/2011

Comments:

From:

Sent:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Wednesday, April 20, 2011 10:20 AM

To: Cc:

HAWtestimony ciel29@hotmail.com

Subject:

Testimony for SCR55 on 4/21/2011 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW/CUA 4/21/2011 9:30:00 AM SCR55

Conference room: 312

Testifier position: support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Lorena Garcia Organization: Individual

Address: Phone:

E-mail: ciel29@hotmail.com Submitted on: 4/20/2011

Comments:

ke Aupuní O hawaii

THE HAWAIIAN KINGDOM

Box 62107 • Manoa Station • Manoa, Oahu, Hawaiian Islands

Testimony Supporting SCR 55

DATE: Thursday, April 21, 2011

HEARINGS OF THE:

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS Rep. Faye P. Hanohano, Chair Rep. Chris Lee, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON CULTURE & THE ARTS Rep. Jessica Wooley, Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE CHAIRS Hanohano and Wooley and members of the Hawaiian Affairs and Culture & the Arts committees:

Aloha ia mai kakou.

The Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was adopted on September 13, 2007 by 143 member states of the United Nations at their General Assembly meeting in New York City. At that historic General Assembly vote, only four UN members voted against the Declaration: Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States.

However, after intensive lobbying by the indigenous peoples, by the end of last year, each of those four states adopted the Declaration, with the US being the very last when President Obama finally announced United States' acceptance on December 16, 2010.

The Declaration sets out the individual and collective rights of the world's 370 million native peoples, calls for the maintenance and strengthening of their cultural identities, and emphasizes their right to pursue development in keeping with their own needs and aspirations. The Declaration signifies a turning point in breaking the discriminatory, genocidal policies and practices instituted by the Papal Bulls beginning in 1493.

The reason I mention the Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is that Hawaii played a significant role in creating it. Dozens of Hawaiians contributed significantly at the United Nations over the past 30 years in the formulation of this declaration. They include: Kawaipuna Prejean, Poka Laenui, Dennis Pu'uhonua Kanahele, Mililani Trask, Lilikala Kame'eleihiwa, Keli'i Gora, Malia Nobrega, Kaiopua Fyfe, 'Ehu Kekahu Cardwell, Butch Kekahu, Joshua Cooper, and yours truly, along with a number of UH students.

The other reason I mention the Declaration is that the Legislature of the State of Hawaii adopted the Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in 2006 prior to the 2007 adoption by the UN General Assembly.

Thus, it is only fitting that the State of Hawaii, continues to dissociate itself and the people of Hawaii, from the horrific injustices suffered by indigenous peoples at the hands of so-called "discoverers," pass SCR 55 and change the holiday, "Discoverers' Day" to "Indigenous People's Day." Not only be would this be appropriate, it would be *pono* and a true reflection of *Aloha*.

Mahalo nui kakou,

Leon Siu

Hawaiian National

From:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Wednesday, April 20, 2011 10:37 AM

To:

HAWtestimony

Cc:

ponosize@hotmail.com

Subject:

Testimony for SCR55 on 4/21/2011 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW/CUA 4/21/2011 9:30:00 AM SCR55

Conference room: 312

Testifier position: support Testifier will be present: Yes Submitted by: Pono Kealoha Organization: Individual

Address: Phone:

E-mail: ponosize@hotmail.com Submitted on: 4/20/2011

Comments:

DISCOVERY DAY = GENOCIDE FOR THE REAL HOST!

HEWA!

Aloha. The use of names carries important meaning and symbolizes the values we place on our society. The name "Discoverers' Day" in Hawaii reflects and condones a history based on subjugation. The fifteenth century Western concept of discovery established Christian dominion

over non-Christians that allowed for their enslavement and the taking of their lands. Countless numbers of indigenous peoples subsequently perished worldwide as a result of the European imperial and colonization process. Today, an increasing number of American states, cities, local governments, and institutions have renamed or abolished "Columbus Day," which is synonymous with the concept of discovery and recognizing a "Discoverers' Day." Therefore, it is requested that the name of this day in Hawaii be changed to Indigenous Peoples' Day to support and stand in solidarity with indigenous peoples around the world.

I was fortunate enough to be able to go to college in Oregon, where I met members of other indigenous groups who celebrated "indigenous peoples day". There, I was so surprised to find that most of the history I had learned in Hawai'i about other indigenous people was so euro-centric, disempowering, inaccurate, limited, 2-dimensional, and outright racist. As a multi-ethnic, indigenous person in Hawai'i, my elementary public school education, surprisingly, did not reflect the diversity of people in Hawai'i. The cultural images in mainstream media (tourism advertisements, television, sports mascots, movies, holidays) that surrounded me as I grew up formed a very ignorant, inaccurate view of my own and others' cultures. It is our responsibility to make sure our keiki grow up proud of and rooted in their cultures and communities so that they can have personal pride and confidence. It is never too late to make a change to educate ourselves better, to more accurately tell history from multiple points of view. I will not be present at the hearing today because I work as a counselor with indigenous haumana (students). Passing this measure would help me to show my students that the ideals adults talk about are worth living up to. Yes, you can question established traditions like "Columbus Day" (who, by the way, committed genocide and other atrocities) and make changes. Yes, you can seek truth and find it in our mo'olelo (stories) that are passed down from generation to generation. Yes, the names and connotations of our celebrations matter in the community. The idea of "Discoverer's Day" is old-fashioned and narrow-minded, especially because the "discoverers" often arrived at places that were already populated with people who were flourishing sustainably, criss-crossing the Pacific in double-hulled canoes! I'd like to send my support for this important legislation.

ke aloha no, kira

From:

Sent:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Wednesday, April 20, 2011 11:15 AM

To:

HAWtestimony

Cc: Subject: pilipohale@hawaii.rr.com

Testimony for SCR55 on 4/21/2011 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW/CUA 4/21/2011 9:30:00 AM SCR55

Conference room: 312

Testifier position: support Testifier will be present: Yes Submitted by: Pilipo Spouza Organization: Individual

Address: Phone:

E-mail: pilipohale@hawaii.rr.com

Submitted on: 4/20/2011

Comments:

We must stop decorating genocide.

pilipo

From:

Sent:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Wednesday, April 20, 2011 12:01 PM

To:

HAWtestimony

Cc:

ekandagawa@gmail.com

Subject:

Testimony for SCR55 on 4/21/2011 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW/CUA 4/21/2011 9:30:00 AM SCR55

Conference room: 312

Testifier position: support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Emily Kandagawa Organization: Individual

Address: Phone:

E-mail: ekandagawa@gmail.com

Submitted on: 4/20/2011

Comments:

From:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Wednesday, April 20, 2011 1:50 PM

To:

HAWtestimony

Cc:

hehawaiimakou@aol.com

Subject:

Testimony for SCR55 on 4/21/2011 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW/CUA 4/21/2011 9:30:00 AM SCR55

Conference room: 312

Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes

Submitted by: shane lee Organization: Individual

Address: Phone:

E-mail: hehawaiimakou@aol.com

Submitted on: 4/20/2011

Comments:

Aloha. The use of names carries important meaning and symbolizes the values we place on our society. The name "Discoverers' Day" in Hawaii reflects and condones a history based on subjugation. The fifteenth century Western concept of discovery established Christian dominion over non-Christians that allowed for their enslavement and the taking of their lands. Countless numbers of indigenous peoples subsequently perished worldwide as a result of the European imperial and colonization process. Today, an increasing number of American states, cities, local governments, and institutions have renamed or abolished "Columbus Day," which is synonymous with the concept of discovery and recognizing a "Discoverers' Day." Therefore, it is requested that the name of this day in Hawaii be changed to Indigenous Peoples Day to support and stand in solidarity with indigenous peoples around the world. Thank you.

From:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Wednesday, April 20, 2011 2:17 PM

To: Cc: HAWtestimony taroc@hawaii.edu

Subject:

Testimony for SCR55 on 4/21/2011 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW/CUA 4/21/2011 9:30:00 AM SCR55

Conference room: 312

Testifier position: support Testifier will be present: Yes

Submitted by: Hoku Taroc Organization: Individual

Address: Phone:

E-mail: taroc@hawaii.edu Submitted on: 4/20/2011

Comments:

Aloha. The use of names carries important meaning and symbolizes the values we place on our society. The name "Discoverers' Day" in Hawaii reflects and condones a history based on subjugation. The fifteenth century Western concept of discovery established Christian dominion over non-Christians that allowed for their enslavement and the taking of their lands. Countless numbers of indigenous peoples subsequently perished worldwide as a result of the European imperial and colonization process. Today, an increasing number of American states, cities, local governments, and institutions have renamed or abolished "Columbus Day," which is synonymous with the concept of discovery and recognizing a "Discoverers' Day." Therefore, it is requested that the name of this day in Hawaii be changed to Indigenous Peoples Day to support and stand in solidarity with indigenous peoples around the world. Thank you.

From:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Wednesday, April 20, 2011 2:56 PM

To: Cc: HAWtestimony kahiwal@cs.com

Subject:

Testimony for SCR55 on 4/21/2011 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW/CUA 4/21/2011 9:30:00 AM SCR55

Conference room: 312

Testifier position: support Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: (Clarence) Kukauakahi Ching

Organization: Individual

Address: Phone:

E-mail: <u>kahiwal@cs.com</u> Submitted on: 4/20/2011

Comments:

The real discoverers of Hawai'i are the long-distance Polynesian voyagers - not some white, Catholic Spaniard or Capt. James Cook. The Polynesians were making landfalls in the biggest pond on earth a long time before the Europeans even got out of sight of land.

HPACH

919 4th Street Pearl City, Hawaii 96782

March 21, 2011

Rep. Faye P. Hanohano, Chair

Rep. Chris Lee, Vice Chair

And Committee Members On Hawaiian Affairs

Rep. Jessica Wooley, Chair

Rep. Della au Belatti, Vice Chair

And Committee Members On Culture and the Arts

House of Representatives, The Twenty-Sixth Legislature

Regular Session of 2011

Subject: SR29/SCR55, Requesting the Governor to Suport Legislation that Redesigned Discoverer's Day in Hawaii as Indigenous Peoples Day, "SUPPORT"

ALOHA Kakou.

My name is Richard Pomaikaiokalani Kinney. I testify today as a Hawaiian National. I "SUPPORT" the passsage of SR29/SCR55.

Every Human Being who lives in Hawaii is an Indigenous person, An Indigenous person to an Indigenous Home Land.

Recently United States finally recognized the "Resolution of the Rights of the Indigenous Peoples" that was passed earlier by the United Nations. Also recognized by this Legislative Body!

It is only proper that Hawaii joins the United Nations, the United States and the many countries around the world that support the Rights of the Indigenous People. In moving forward with these Resolution for all the Indigenous People of Hawaii.

Mahalo Nui for your SUPPORT for these Important Resolutions.

ALOHA KUU AINA H<u>A</u>WAII

Richard Pomaikaiokalani Kinney, Hawaiian National 1993

Email: Hiahawaii@aol.com